

Fairs-1936

Florida.

Lake City, Fla., Gazette
February 28, 1936

**PRIZE FOR COLUMBIA
CO. NEGRO FARM EXHIBIT**

The exhibits in the negro department of the Florida State Fair in Tampa were the best in history. Awards made by judges show that Jefferson county won first prize making 977 points in agriculture out of a possible thousand. Jackson county second, Marion county third, Columbia county fourth, Alachua county fifth, Hamilton county sixth, Leon county seventh. Individual farms, five entries were made. Jefferson county won first, Hamilton county won second, Collier county third, two other counties contesting.

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Georgia

Eastman, Ga., Times-Journal
January 23, 1936

NEGROES HAVE FAIR AT ZION HILL MONDAY

COMMUNITY DEMONSTRATION
CLUB MAKES CREDITABLE
SHOWING OF AGRICUL-
TURAL PRODUCTS

A very lively interest was shown in the first Negro Dodge County Community Fair at Zion Hill on Monday, January 20, both by exhibitors and numbers in attendance. The fair was put on by the Zion Hill Demonstration Club under the able leadership of Emory Thomas, Negro County Agent for Dodge, Laurens and Treutlen counties.

Displays were shown in both home and farm products, with the competition keen in each of the several classes. The collections of canned foods had the greatest number of exhibitors, hams coming next in number. The canned foods included peaches, berries, pears, tomatoes, meats, snap beans, pickles, beets, syrup, honey, jelly and preserves. Not a great variety of green vegetables were shown, but the turnips were unusually good and well graded for market.

Corn selections showed care had been taken by each exhibitor. Some of the hams were left over from last year, while others were not completely cured. Three nice hogs and six coops of chickens were shown. Some unusually good colored hay was exhibited, along with a good corn exhibit that was produced with only the aid of an ox. Sweet potatoes were shown for size.

The following were awarded prizes by County Agent Thomas: Hams, E. K. Harrell, Jr.; Syrup, Mary Williams; 10 ears of corn, B. J. Gordon; Pig, Archie Lee Pickett; Pair of Chickens, Josephine Harrell; Green Vegetables, Tobie Harrell; Canned Food dis-

play, Nelson Borden. Two school children, Gladys Pearl Rozar and Daniel Rozar, were given awards for artificial flowers and drawings. The judging was done by Mrs. K. J. Carswell, Home Agent and Mr. Clarence Rawlins and Miss Pearl Peacock of Eastman.

During the morning an interesting program was arranged by the club, which included U. S. Johnson of Dublin on the "Meaning of Co-operation," and Prof. H. G. Burton, superintendent of the Eastman Negro School, with his subject "Live at Home." These were followed by the Home Agent, Mrs. K. J. Carswell using for her subject, "Gardens." "Does the Farmer Want a Control Campaign?" was discussed by Mr. Clarence Rawlins. Just before the lunch hour a chorus of school children rendered a song.

Following the lunch hour a demonstration in meat cutting was given by the Negro County Agent, Emory Thomas.

The Demonstration Club has plans under way to establish a canning center in the Zion Hill community, and funds are being rapidly raised for the retort and sealer. This will be used by the community for the purpose of canning meat, as well as vegetables, looking toward well filled pantries and a bigger and better Community Fair next year.

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Louisiana

Monroe, La., Morning World

February 13, 1936

Negro Groups To Hold Mardi Gras On Feb. 25

The X. Y. Z. club and other negro groups here will stage their annual Mardi Gras celebration February 25, it was announced here Tuesday.

King Zulu and the Queen of Sheba will arrive in Monroe with their extensive retinues at the foot of Pine street, where they will leave their boat. With the playing of bands and a lusty acclaim, the king and queen will be received by a large assemblage, if present plans are carried out.

Immediately thereafter, a parade will be formed which will proceed through downtown Monroe to DeSiard and Fourteenth street, where it will disband. There will be floats and a prize will be awarded for the best one.

The Mardi Gras ball will be held at Liberty night club on Fourteenth street. This will climax the day's festivities.

New Orleans, La., Times-Picayune
February 21, 1936

Friday, February 21, 1936

New Orleans Negro Plays Distinctive Carnival Role

to welcome the king and drink champagne to the health of "his

No one enters into the spirit majesty."

of Carnival more whole-heartedly than the New Orleans negro. His grooves of New Orleans will lend antics in the streets and the thoroughness with which he arranges 1936 Mardi Gras as colorful as and carries out the annual Zulu those of bygone years. There is parade are particular high lights hardly a New Orleanian who of the celebration.

Made up of floats depicting African scenes and personages, this parade moves over a route of formidable length, so that few persons interested in the annual display are required to walk far from their homes in any section of the city to see it.

It is quite an endurance test for the Zulu king and his assistants, but they all love it. Herbert "Brother" Hewlett is the Zulu king of the 1936 Carnival. He was selected for the honor by the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club. The Zulu queen this year is Regina Brooks.

She will wait on the reviewing stand at the Geddes and Moss Funeral Home, 2128 Jackson avenue, with members of her court

one grinningly nods to right and left and waves his scepter in acknowledgment of his subjects' acclaim. Then he mounts the royal float, and beside him former kings of the Zulu realm take their seats. The pageant gets into action. A train of floats bearing the courtiers, and bringing up the rear is the truck laden with the king's baggage in charge of the royal guards.

The royal float is flanked by the king's dukes as it moves along the route of the parade, and following behind are members of the drill squad and the grand marshal and his aides, mounted upon gaily decorated steeds.

The parade halts along the route at various places to receive loving cups from merchants in the name of King Zulu.

There is something individualistic about the negroes' street-masking that stands out in the fun they create—the music and color and grotesque antics of the fun-makers in their equally grotesque costumes, which all together play a distinctive role in making Carnival the happy event it is.

would hesitate to advise a visitor not to miss the pageant of the Zulu king and his entourage if he would enjoy Mardi Gras in full measure. The Zulu king's arrival upon a royal barge at the head of the New Basin at 10:30 a. m. Mardi Gras and his march through the streets of the city, seated upon a title float, is accepted as much a part of the life and color of Carnival as are more pretentious creations for the furtherance of the spirit of New Orleans' famous annual gala event.

To the blare of music and cheers of thousands of persons lined along the banks of the canal, King Zulu steps from his royal barge with the pomp and dignity befitting his position. Flanked by his dukes, the regal

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NEGROES PLAN TO PLAY ROLE IN 1939 FAIR

Groups Move to Nip Any Bias and to Participate

In an early start to get Negroes integrated fully in the activities of the New York World's Fair of 1939, the Committee on Public Policy held a meeting Tuesday night at which the Negro's part in (1) buying some of the \$28,000,000 worth of bonds issued to finance the fair; (2) the exhibition of significant examples of all creative work of the race, and (3) participation in the distribution of all grades of employment in connection with the fair, were discussed.

The meeting, which was held in the Urban League building, met in response to an invitation from Charles M. Hanson, chairman of the committee, and was attended by Francis E. Rivers, Fred R. Moore, Robert P. Braddicks, C. D. King, Arthur A. Schomburg, Lemuel Foster, Eugene Kinckle Jones, the Rev. John H. Johnson, Clifford Alexander, H. W. Pope, Dr. James W. Thornton, Mrs. B. Smoot, Dr. Charles H. Roberts, the Rev. Lorenzo H. King, Joseph F. Forrester, W. Leon Chapman, Timothy Knight, and A. H. Gordon.

Mr. Rivers, who is one of the incorporators of the World's Fair, in explaining the business of the meeting, said:

"Since the theme of the fair is 'Building the World of Tomorrow,' I feel that all steps possible should be taken to have the Negroes part in the World's Fair of 1939 appear in the same light as we would like it to appear in the world of tomorrow."

"Officials and committees having charge of all phases of the fair, including the initial financing, designing, employment policies, exhibits, places of public amusement at the fair, or, in short, all the creators and operators of the fair having charge of activities where problems of racial adjustment might arise, should meet

with a small body of representative Negroes for the purpose of exploring in advance all objectionable situations which might arise, and on the basis of such exploration to evolve the most satisfactory and harmonious way of securing intelligent racial adjustment," asserted Mr. Rivers.

Agree On Participation.

According to Mr. Rivers, Grover W. Whalen, president of the World's Fair Corporation, and W. Earle Andrews, general manager of the fair, and other officials connected with the project, have agreed that the Negro should have active participation in the fair and that discrimination of any kind will not be countenanced.

Attempting to assure harmonious cooperation between the two races, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Rivers agreed that a list of names of white and colored persons familiar with problems of racial adjustment should be submitted by Mr. Rivers in order that the Committee on Committees could arrange for its active advisory participation in the fair.

Dr. P. M. H. Savory, Francis E. Rivers, Mrs. Harriet Shad Butcher, Mary D. Brady, William H. Austin, Morris L. Ernst, the Rev. Michael S. Mulvoy, Dr. Louis T. Wright, the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr.; Henry C. Craft, Mrs. Elise Ayer, Inez R. Wilson, Stanley M. Isaacs, Vertner W. Tandy, Samuel F. Jenkins, James H. Hubert, Ludlow Werner, Lester B. Granger and Charles M. Hanson have agreed to serve and advice on the racial adjustment committee.

The result of the discussion was that the important problem before the meeting was to determine the best method by which Negro participation in the fair could achieve the most for the race.

Would Avoid Charges.

Maintaining that "while the Negro's contribution to American civilization should not be submerged, at the same time for the sake of precedent and other important factors it was important that no handling of racial adjustments by the fair officials should be of such a nature as to justify at any time the charge of 'Jim Crowism' or discrimination or segregation," the Committee on Public Policy went on record as working for a united front for adequate Negro participation in the World's Fair.

The committee also pledged itself to keep the public informed as to all happenings in connection with the fair. Negroes on Civil Service lists, who desire employment with the fair are urged to make application to the personnel department of the New York World's Fair of 1939, Empire State Building, Thirty-fourth street and Fifth avenue. Jobs under \$3,000 per year will be filled from the Civil Service.

Robert Leftridge, realtor of 159 West 126th street, has been made Harlem agent for the fair bonds. He will seek patronage of business houses rather than individuals.

New York.

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WANT 40,000 AT THE FAIR

~~Commercial Appeal~~
Negro Chorus, Other Features Assured at Columbus Exposition

COLUMBUS, Miss., Sept. 21. — President H. M. Pratt, of the Columbus Radius Fair, said the 1936 fair, which opens Oct. 12 and runs for one week, has an ambitious attendance goal. ~~9-23-36~~

The attendance for six days will have a goal of 40,000. This will be almost double actual attendance last year, which is the highest on record. ~~Memphis, Tenn.~~

One hundred negro singers from Columbus and Lowndes County are being enrolled for a chorus, and in addition some Alabama voices will be in the choir, which will feature "In From Slavery."

Mississippi.

Fairs-1936

North Carolina

Wilson, N. C., Times

June 26, 1936

**NEGROES TO HAVE SECTION OF
EXHIBITS AT COUNTY FAIR**

This year for the first time, the negroes of Wilson County are to have a special section of exhibits on display at the Wilson County Fair to be held October 5 to 10. Permission for the negroes to exhibit their products was recently granted by the Robert B. Anderson Post of the American Legion, sponsors of the fair, and a complete list of the products for the negroes to exhibit is now included in the premium list which is now available at the office of the Secretary of the American Legion and C. L. Spellman, negro county agent.

The portion of the premium list for the negroes was made out by C. L. Spellman, who is in charge of the negro section of the fair. It includes five main sections as follows: sections for men, women, boys, girls and schools and clubs. The list includes 100 different things to be shown, all of which carry two or more cash prizes. The 100 things include farm and garden products, practical and fancy sewing, canned goods, boys' and girls' hand work, and school and club general exhibits. The people who live in the city as well as the rural people will find exhibits included which they can offer at the fair, and all are urged to call at the office of the county agent and receive a copy of the premium list.

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Fayetteville, Tenn., News

March 19, 1936

LINCOLN COUNTY COLORED FAIR

Foremost among out-of-town speakers who are to address the fair, sponsored by the Lincoln County Colored Teacher's Association here the last week in this month is Mr. W. E. Turner, assistant State Supervisor of Negro schools. Among other speakers who are to address the local group are: Prof. L. J. Walls, superintendent of city schools; Prof. Stevenson, supt. of County schools; Dr. Cannon, president of the Lincoln County Fair Association and others.

The fair promises to bring to Fayetteville a rare exhibit of home, school and farm products. There will also be a county-wide spelling match and an oratorical contest. Music will be furnished by local school groups and by the Fayetteville Colored Band.

An additional attraction to the fair exhibit will be a booth furnished by the adult (opportunity) school which has been in session at the Negro High school for the past few months under the direction of Prof. Bruce Word and Mrs. Gaddy. Many beautiful objects of fine workmanship have been made by the (adult) pupils of the school and will be placed on display.

HUGE GATE FORESEEN
FOR NEGRO FAIR HERE

Exposition Opening Sept. 24
May Draw 35,000

One of the largest exhibitions in the history of the 26-year-old Negro Tri-State Fair Association will be presented this year, Dr. L. G. Patterson, secretary, said yesterday.

"The fair will be held at the Fair Grounds, Sept. 24-26, and indications are that the show this year will be well attended," said Dr. Patterson. "We expect 35,000."

"Farmers within a radius of 75 miles of Memphis are making plans for entering their work in the fair this year. We have contract with the Great Superior Show to put on a mid-way with plenty of con-

soins, rides and shows each day of the fair.

Free attractions will be provided afternoon and night in front of the grandstand. There will be horse races in the afternoon and fireworks at night.

TENN. STATE
FAIR IS A
SUCCESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—(SNS)—

The record breaking attendance of Tennessee State Fair Monday morning was not a surprise to those

enthusiastic workers who have for months been preparing to look entries for the big event.

Even the cattle displayed unusual fervor when nine pigs, born on Sunday morning in time for the first day's take-off, a pure-bred Berkshire that had been entered from the Sunny Brook Stock Farm of Albion, Ill.

Display of Tennessee's corn crop, tobacco and hay were so striking that even to the casual observer the thought of a drought in this state for even a short season appears absurd.

The afternoon session got off with a bang when racing forged its way to the fore-front.

Afternoon Races

Gus Schrader of Cedar Rapids, Iowa set a new record on the 1/8 mile track winning two of the four races, at 3 minutes and 4 seconds with Calloway of Miami, Florida second and Arch Powell of Illinois third.

Other winners and runner-up represented the states of Illinois, Georgia and Florida.

Horse Shows

Eight different classes of horses were entered in the horse show ranging from ponies under 48 inches ridden by children to Troop

E. 109th Cavalry.

Friday—Children's Day

All city public schools will be dismissed Friday so that students and teachers will have the opportunity of visiting the fair. Special prices have already been fixed and it is expected that the majority of teachers and students will attend.

Saturday Last Day

With the closing out of the Tennessee State Fair on Saturday every conceivable opportunity for citizens to learn of new inventions, modern processes, latest equipment, and manufacturing, electricity, housing, etc., will have been presented during this 31st Annual holding of the State Fair.

NEGRO FAIR STRESSES

THEME OF SELF-HELP

Progress, Economic Betterment Shown in Exhibits

TODAY IS TENNESSEE DAY

Wide Range Noted in Displays of Farm and Home Products—School Children's Work Gets Attention

Progress of the negro race in the Mid-South and its economic improvement particularly in agriculture and practical educational lines are emphasized at the annual negro Tri-State Fair which opened yesterday at the Mid-South Fair Grounds.

Today has been designated as Tennessee and Children's Day at the fair. Yesterday was Arkansas Day and tomorrow Mississippi Day will be held.

Stressing educational and agricultural advancement officials of the negro Tri-States Fair Association is encouraging negroes to become self-sustaining in their homes.

Articles Run Gamut

From WPA work to agriculture and home economic exhibits the booths in the Women's Building display a variety of utilitarian articles ranging from hand knit dresses and rag rugs to canned goods, and prize garden exhibits.

Potatoes, pumpkins and other garden foodstuffs are spotlighted in the "Our Back Yard" booth. Em-

phasis is placed on the use of the yard as a potential food supply for the winter.

Soil erosion and terracing comes in for its share of the high school exhibits. Covington Negro High School added a display of seed germination and proper care of the soil.

Clubs and Churches

Both seed corn and corn for canning is stressed in the high school and home economic displays. Women's clubs and church organizations vie with individual entries for honors in the canning and food preservation department.

Economy and beauty are emphasized. In the sewing and dress-making displays one article was made from an old tin can and odds and ends of material.

Operation of hand looms for the rug making is demonstrated by negro women while finished rugs are shown in separate exhibits.

Outstanding among the women's exhibits are the WPA needle work and dress-making displays. Willia Mae Brown, negro WPA supervisor, commenting on the advancement over previous years said the quality of the work shows an interest on the part of the people in making the articles.

The Woodstock Training School has student-made shirts, dresses and presents historical poster and model displays featuring transportation trends. The New Farmer's organization shows exhibits of prize sweet potatoes, corn, cotton and peppers.

On the mid-way the carnival and sideshow booths are trimmed and ready for business. Yesterday afternoon the featured event was the "Great Baby Show." Approximately 38 babies were entered, received free medical examinations and competed for the grand prizes.

Tomorrow races, vaudeville shows and the educational exhibits will be featured. "Black" Herman will drive his automobile through a flaming wall of fire in the afternoon.

Each evening of the fair dancing will be held in the Electrical Building. The Bama State Collegians played last night and will play again tomorrow night. Tonight Andy Kirk's band will play. The Rev. J. L. Campbell, president of the Fair Association, and Dr. L. G. Patterson, secretary-manager, are in charge of the fair.

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Prejudice Is a Ridiculous Thing

The Texas Centennial closed Sunday with those who guided its destinies at last aroused from belated slumber regarding the potential Negro support which has well nigh been ignored during the entire exposition.

At the outset we might point out that the entire exposition was originally planned with no thought of Negro participation. In fact, whatever share black folk had in the historic show the federal government provided that arrangement. In the appropriation made by the Texas legislature and other sums provided by the city of Dallas, the thought of Negro cooperation was ignored.

Think of it! With 854,964 Negroes residing in the state of Texas; with Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma holding a million more, white men supposed to be planning a business venture involving ten million dollars would willfully turn their backs upon potential dollars within the circle of two million American citizens.

Prejudice is such a ridiculous thing. But what happened? When the federal government allocated three million dollars to the exposition it provided for Negro participation and there came into being the Hall of Negro Life and Culture. When this structure was erected the Texans in charge were still so dubious regarding the effort that they planted shrubbery in front of the structure which hid it from the view of white visitors.

Along with federal money the government set into the state Negroes from other states to direct the activities in the Hall of Negro Life. This arrangement was resented by Texas Negroes, so that after all the participation on the part of Texas Negroes was half-hearted and in a large measure forced. This was evidenced by the exhibits in the Negro Building. Negroes from other states showed far more interest in presenting their contributions to science, culture and art than Texas Negroes.

In spite of these handicaps the spending power of Negroes was exhibited October 19 in a way that will cause the Centennial officials next year to lay aside their puerile prejudices when they open the fair. Read what the Dallas Times-Herald, October 20, had to say regarding Negro Day, October 19:

"Negro day Monday brought the best spending crowd the Texas Centennial Exposition has ever admitted, Finance Director A. E. Moyle said Tuesday.

"With attendance slightly above 66,000, Monday gross receipts were higher than those of Saturday, when 90,000 persons attended the exposition," Mr. Moyle said. Cash receipts almost doubled the amount spent by the 59,000 persons admitted Sunday.

"The Negro day cash figure will be beaten only by the high July 4 receipts, Mr. Moyle said.

"Midway rides, the grounds sight-seeing buses, and Duke Ellington were the 'big money' attractions for the Negroes. Hamburger stands topped all eating houses for the day.

"More than 4,000 Negroes swamped ticket sellers at Streets of All Nations for the all-Negro shows and dance Monday night. Unable to obtain enough ticket sellers at the Streets of All Nations gate, Mr. Moyle himself started selling tickets. He found his accounts short 5 cents after dispensing tickets for three hours."

This writer happened to be a visitor at the Texas State

Teachers Association when Director Moyle appeared before the delegates asking that they visit the Centennial while in Dallas. The director referred to the banner receipts of October 19, and all through his remarks it could be noted that so far as Mr. Moyle is concerned, "the stone that had been cast aside had now become the head of the corner." The Centennial officials at the close of the exposition had at last discovered that Negro participation is profitable. It was extremely noticeable that Director Moyle was wishing that his foresight had been as visionful as his hind-sight.

This sort of error on the part of our white friends is continually cropping out. Recently right here in Oklahoma City, when the Independent Grocers were holding a meeting endeavoring to develop some plan by which the populace could be induced to cease trading in chain stores, a prominent white citizen in an address in the chamber of commerce made this significant statement:

"There are 20,000 Negroes in this city who have potential buying power and which the white independent grocer ignores. When these Negroes come into the store of the independent you allow your clerks to insult them and in many instances refuse to wait upon him.

"On the other hand all of the chain stores require uniform service and courtesy be extended to every human being entering the establishment. If this service is not given the attendant is summarily fired. The independent grocer in Oklahoma City can never get these Negroes into their establishments until such business firms offer the same type and character of courtesy and deference to Negro customers as offered to whites."

To this the Black Dispatch might add that thousands of Negroes in Oklahoma patronize mail order houses selling clothing and other articles such as automobile accessories and furniture for the very self same reason assigned by this very sensible white man. How foolish is the man who allows prejudice to dominate his conduct. The spending power of Negroes in the United States is greater than our foreign trade with all nations. The Black Dispatch wonders when our white neighbors who go bankrupt and wonder why, will awaken to this fact.

It was Thomas Dixon who said that "the Negro for centuries walked across the sands of Africa crunching diamonds under his feet and never thought to pick one up; he gazed out upon the vast expanse of ocean and never thought to make a sail." Perhaps that is so, but we wonder whether, when we measure white folk by the yardstick of the Texas Centennial and the Independent Grocer, they meet Thomas Dixon's test?

Fairs-1936

Texas

JESSE O. THOMAS OF CENTENNIAL TO VISIT STATE

3-28-36
State Committee Is
Called To Meet
Saturday

DALLAS.—For the first time since the announcement that the colored people of Texas and the United States would have a Negro building the Texas Centennial took on reality in a very visible way for the race with the opening of the office of A. Maceo Smith in the suite of offices of the United States Centennial Commission in the administration building of the Exposition.

Mr. Smith announced Tuesday that Jesse O. Thomas, general manager of the Negro building, would be in the city Saturday, and at that time he will meet the Texas Negro Centennial Commission, headed by Dr. W. R. Banks. Saturday morning an executive session will be held and in the afternoon those of the public who are interested are invited to make suggestions as to what Texas Negroes should do for successful participation.

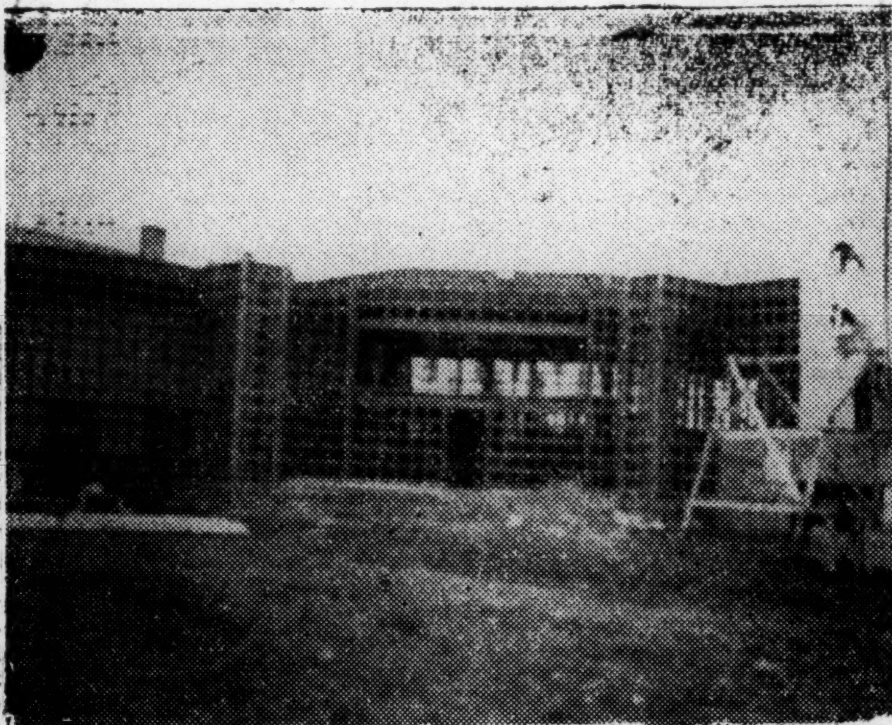
Reports that the appointment of Mr. Smith as assistant general manager was not sufficient recognition for the part that the Texas Negro has played in the state's history were declared by one centennial official as being unfounded. Mr. Smith, it was said, has his duties so outlined to him that the two men, Mr. Smith and Mr. Thomas will not have any conflicts.

Mr. Smith, as assistant general manager, will have charge of the participation of Texas and surrounding states in the exposition. Mr. Thomas will be concerned with the getting of exhibits from all parts of the country and with their transportation. Mr. Smith, with his office in the Federal suite, will be in charge of the building. While in the city the two will use the same office.

Though the exposition will open on June 6 it was stated by Mr. Smith that dedicatory services will be held June 19 for the Negro Hall of Culture.

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

By J. ALSTON ATKINS, Editor



Informers 4-19-36
NEGRO HALL UNDERWAY

Construction work on the Negro Hall of Culture at the Texas Centennial in Dallas is expected to end May 15. Skilled white workers are pictured as they labored on the building last week. Negroes are employed in performing the unskilled tasks.

NEGRO PROGRESS-THE CENTENNIAL—

The Federal Negro building at the Texas Centennial is now under construction. It is supposed to represent Negro progress, Negro achievement;—to display the way that Negroes have been able to grasp and master American civilization. It is said by those in authority that they expect a million Negroes to come from far and near to see what Negroes have done.

If Negro progress is to be measured by this building, then I am ashamed of Negro progress. For, after a hundred years no Negro was found who could satisfactorily draw the plans for this (some say \$27,000) structure. After a hundred years no Negro contractor was found who could build this building to suit Centennial officials. And, greatest shame of all, after a hundred years, no Negro artisans were found to do the actual work of construction.

Of course, I know the stock arguments which are used to explain how this all happened: Arguments about Federal red tape, Federal this, Federal that, and a lot of other poppycock which Negroes are expected to swallow without debate and without complaint. But I also know that, regardless of what may be said in justification, the fact remains that the "Negro Hall of Progress" at the Texas

Centennial is in fact, both architecturally and mechanically, and from start to finish, the handiwork of other races. In my opinion, no Negro can honestly be proud of that.

What a travesty on justice, and what a paradox, to ask Negroes to demonstrate their architectural and mechanical genius in a modest little "Hall of Progress," which Negroes were permitted neither to design nor build!

The best possible place to have shown the architectural, mechanical, and engineering genius of Negroes was in the design and construction of the "Negro Hall of Progress." At best placards and posters placed on the inside will be a poor substitute.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
NEWS

MAY 6 - 1936

UNUSUAL and interesting section of the Texas Centennial Exposition in Dallas will be the Negro Exhibit Hall. Enough material has been gathered (reports A. Maceo Smith, assistant manager for that department) to render the display of Negro arts and crafts, culture and

NEGRO EXHIBIT AT EXPOSITION

achievements, one of the "high lights." An outstanding exhibitor will be Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, which will give conspicuous display to the work done by its nationally famous agricultural chemist, Dr. Thomas U. Carver. Besides, W. R. Banks, president of Texas State College for Negroes at Prairie View, has sponsored the gathering of some 600 mechanical inventions by Negroes, which will be shown. The Rosenwald Foundation will display the race's progress in community health and public sanitation during the past 50 years and will suggest the Negro's own contribution to that achievement.

The United States Census Bureau has assembled revealing statistics—to be shown through graphs and charts—regarding the Negro's part in Texas' and the country's upbuilding during the past 100 years. Booker T. Washington's exhibit on educational theory, which drew general attention at other world's fairs, will be incorporated in the exhibit. The Harmon Foundation (New York) will lend its Negro art collection for display during the exposition. Negro musical troupes will appear for several days on the season's program. Special celebrations have been arranged for June 19, August 19 and October 19. Even a casual visit will convince the spectator that the Negro has contributed more to Texas' life than spirituals, jazz, field labor and menial work—that he ranks creditably in his own right as a Commonwealth-builder.

CENTURY OF NEGRO PROGRESS IS IN THE MAKING AT FT. WORTH

FORT WORTH.—Something new and different is happening in Fort Worth as far as Negroes are concerned. Plans are being made to stage "A Century of Negro Progress" and work on the grounds has already begun. The benefits to be derived from the Centennial and Frontier Centennial Dr. T. S. Boone foresees the exclusion of Negroes from the real benefits of such participation.

"A Century of Negro Progress" is purely and solely a Negro undertaking. All employees, officials, and participants will be Negroes. More than 11,000 ft. of lumber on the grounds has served to give employment to 40 Negro men. From time to time more will be placed at work on this program filling every official capacity; every construction worker, every ticket vendor, every ticket taker, and policeman will be a Negro.

Commissioner Mitchell has stated that all streets in any way connected with the grounds will be graded and graveled providing a street improvement that would otherwise have to be paid for by Negro taxpayers.

"A Century of Negro Progress" will present the finest of Negro entertainment available. Many outstanding Negroes will be brought to Fort Worth. Already signed are Yerger, the prophet of India, known for his magical ability and Raft.

Exhibits are being collected from the entire south and a spectacular pageant depicting the progress of the Negro race using 500 actors, singers, and musicians will be presented.

"A Century of Negro Progress" will be staged in Fort Worth with offer to the world at large evidence that Negroes can present an exhibition second to none in splendor and entertainment.

TEXAS HISTORY IS PORTRAYED IN EXHIBITS

Colorful Scenes Of Pageant Depict State's Growth

Wheatley Centennial Celebrations came to a dramatic close in a two night program. On May 22nd more than 4000 persons poured in to witness one of the most remarkable and stupendous exhibits yet to have been produced by a school group in the city. The exhibits were taken largely from History, Science and Industrial Arts. Among these features, the History Department gave sand tables showing the development of Texas roads, the reconstruction of Texas Missions, and a book of the noted Negro pioneers and their contributions. Striking among the scientific exhibits were pictures and specimens of plants and animals native to Texas, and the experimental demonstration of electroplating, and the production of various petroleum products through fractional distillation. A style show displaying the latest modes in ladies' fancy garments, the display of radios, cabinets, vanities, smoking stands, fancy lamps, cakes, confectious and many other delicacies.

THE PAGEANT MAY 22

A historical pageant, "Texas, O Texas," was presented with a cast of 1000 students to a capacity audience in the Phillis Wheatley high school auditorium last Friday night. The pageant represented in colorful pantomime and song, with the aid of readers, the building and development of the state, and its progress through the century.

In Part One, "The Building of the State," were scenes representing a Texas Indian Village, Spanish Missions, A Memorial, the Birth of the Republic, and Texas Joining the Union.

Part Two, "Here Comes Texas," preshowed "The West" with its cowboys "The South," with its cotton, "The Magic Valley," with its Spanish dancers and "Texas in the Spring," with its mountains, valleys and green trees.

The first episode of Part Three was a tribute to education, in which the three city high school and the Negro colleges of the state were represented. Episode two was a panorama of Texas leading cities.

The readers, who introduced the scenes of Part One and Part Two, were Celia Bedford and Alice Fowlkes.

Other students with special parts were Elizabeth Merrill and Alfred Payne as Indian lovers, Harriet Roberts and Reginald Harris as pioneer women, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Shelby Campbell as Catholic priests, Althea Boyce and Charles Davis as Spanish dancers, Benita Pierson as Liberty and Willie Mae

Shotwell as Miss Dallas.

The pageant was written and directed by Mrs. Bessie H. Johnson, and presented through the assistance of committees composed of thirty-two teachers.
DALLAS, TEX.

NEWS

MAY 17 1936

Negroes at the Centennial

Negroes of Dallas and Texas are responding ably to the demands of the Texas Centennial Exposition. Aided by an appropriation of \$100,000 from the Federal Government, leaders are co-operating to assure a memorable presentation of racial progress in the special building designed for this purpose. Never before has any World's Fair accorded representation to the negro race on such a comprehensive scale.

The Negro's contribution to the development of Texas is a large one, whether measured in human values or in cold mathematical terms. He constitutes today almost one sixth of the population of Texas. It is eminently proper that the negro race should have a significant part in the celebration of Texas' freedom and independence. The negro exhibit will be both a revelation to Centennial visitors in general and a source of justifiable pride to the negro race itself.

Naturally the exposition will attract larger numbers of negro visitors than ever before in local history. This will be especially true on the three occasions of June 19, August 19 and October 19, which have been designated particularly for this race. Adequate housing for the negro population of Dallas is a problem even in normal times. Hotel facilities for those able and willing to pay for first-class service are almost nonexistent. An unusual burden, therefore, falls upon the more well-to-do negro families of Dallas to open their homes to visitors in the emergency. They can render the community no more patriotic service.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS
PRESS

MAY 16 1936

THE NEGRO CENTENNIAL

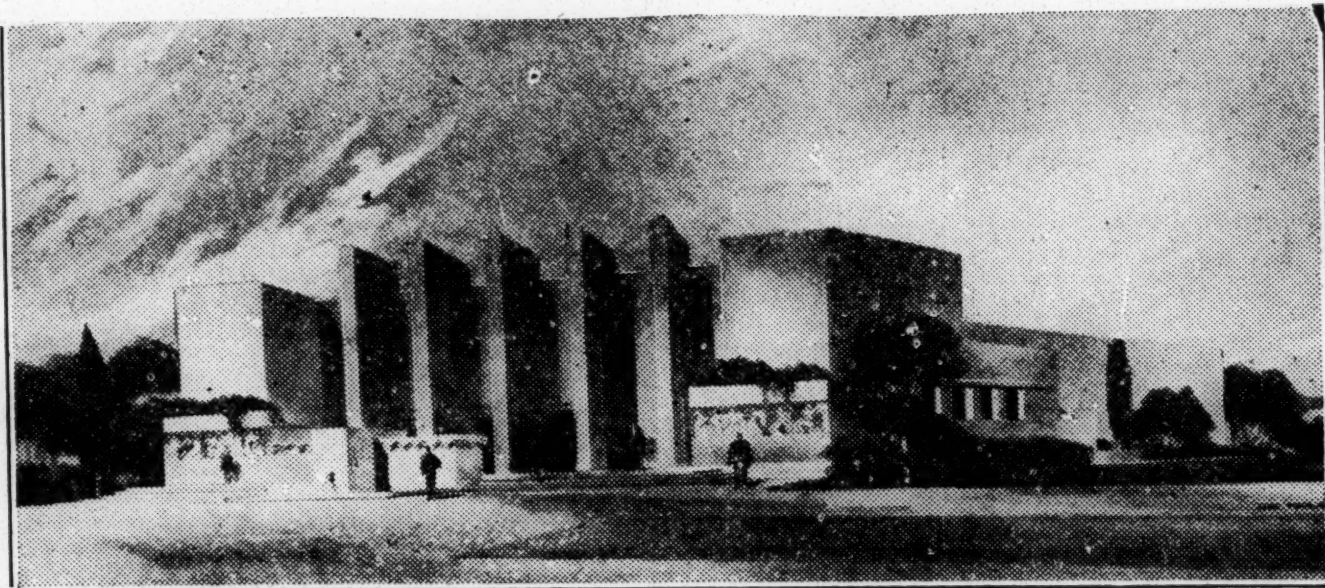
IT begins to look like Fort Worth will be the scene of two outstanding Texas Centennial events. The Frontier Exposition is taking shape on West Seventh St. and promises to be ready on time for the big entertainment season's opening July 1. In addition, Fort Worth has been selected as the site for the Century of Negro Progress.

We are pleased to note that Dr. T. S. Boone and associated leaders of the negro race are making plans for big doings near Lake Como.

The negro has a place in the history of Texas, and the fact that the race will observe the state's hundredth birthday is creditable. One needs to read no further than J. Frank Dobie's "The Flavour of Texas" to realize that the negro had a part in the making of the State.

We recall offhand how Old Uncle Ned, a trusted slave, guarded the women and children during the treacherous times of the "runaway scrape" a hundred years ago. Negro mustangers, cowboys and horsewranglers won renown on range and trail. Many are the stories of loyal negroes who kept their places and even performed deeds of heroism during and after the Civil War.

If the negro exposition can capture and reflect this tradition through pageants and programs it will be an accomplishment of interest to whites as well as to negroes.



The \$50,000 Hall of Negro Culture, the first of the new buildings to be completed on the Texas Central Centennial Grounds in Dallas, was officially accepted as a complete job by the Federal Government in Dallas. Every phase of Negro life will be on exhibit and displayed in such a manner to reflect the progress of Negroes in the United States and his contribution to American culture. The Hall of Negro Culture is pictured above.

Tuskegee Leads Vanguard To Centennial Exhibits

DALLAS, Texas—The first truck loads of exhibits to arrive at Dallas to be placed in the Negro exhibit building were assembled at Tuskegee Institute under the direction of President Frederick Douglass Patterson. In charge of these two truckloads of the exhibit and serving as pilots for the motorcade were Arthur H. Mack, in charge of steam engineering, and Matthew Wood, member of the agricultural faculty of that institution. So important and valuable were the Carver and Curtis sections of the exhibit that Dr. Carver consented for his products and discoveries to be assembled only under condition that his assistant, A. H. Curtis, should accompany the exhibit to Dallas and supervise the installation. Exhibits have also been received from the State of West Virginia. Advance information indicates that exhibits are on the way, having been crated and shipped from practically every state in the union and most of the educational institutions in the South.

Negro Building Acceptance Waits Fire Protection

Official Dedication Is Expected to Be Possible Emancipation Day

The Federal Government Saturday refused to accept the \$50,000 Negro building at the Centennial until changes are made in the physical structure. The Government's main objection was inadequate fire protection, said A. Maceo Smith, assistant general manager in charge of the Negro participation in the exposition. The building, one of two built on the grounds with Federal funds, remained closed during the first day of Texas' birthday party. Officials of the Negro participation department, however, were hoping that arrangements could be made whereby the exhibit would be open to the public by Monday.

Ceremonies of the unveiling of a

scheduled for Saturday afternoon, were postponed. A tentative date of Monday, June 15, was set for the ceremonies, the program for which will be worked out later by Negro fraternal organizations of the State and by representatives of the Department of Commerce from Washington, D. C. Official dedication of the Negro structure is set for June 19, Emancipation Day, a special day for Negroes at the exposition. The presentation of the building will be made by a representative of President Roosevelt. Exhibits in the building will be divided in six sections, education, health, agriculture, mechanical production, business and art, which will include needlework, handicraft, painting, music and sculpture.

RACE PRAISED ON PROGRESS AT EXPOSITION

\$50,000 Hall Of Negro Life Is Dedicated

By DAVID W. KELLUM
(Chicago Defender Staff Correspondent)

DALLAS, Tex., June 26—(Special)—In spite of the surreptitious attempts made by Dallas white citizenry to give a ludicrous tinge to the opening of the Hall of Negro Life at the Texas Centennial Exposition, merely to discredit Race participants, the \$50,000 building dedicated to the achievements of the Race was opened at noon Friday amid a blaze of glory.

For twelve hours it was estimated that 46,116 persons passed through the building, lauding highly the magnificent achievements and the workmanship exhibited by our people in the Hall of Negro Life. This spontaneous laudatory outburst on the part of the discriminating public set at rest the recurrent rumors that the exhibit would not measure up to the standard requirement of the exposition.

Building Late Opening

Unable to throw open its doors to the public on the initial day because a prejudiced contractor chose to erect the building according to his own specifications ignoring completely the wishes of the National Advisory Committee, officials had to content themselves with dedicating the Hall Friday, June 19, otherwise known as "Juneteenth."

The demonstration on the part of Race Texans was easily the greatest emancipation jubilee since General Gordon Grainger, U. S. A. landed at Galveston seventy-one years ago and proclaimed on June 19 that henceforth the black man was forever free in this state.

From every section of the South they came, men, women and children to join in the day's festivities. The entire Centennial grounds were turned over to members of the Race and it was estimated that the visiting throng spent somewhere over \$150,000 in Dallas during the celebration.

There was no disorder as had been predicted by several of the daily newspapers. The extra police placed on the grounds to curb any outbreak found themselves without anything to do but watch the merry-makers as they made their way around the fair grounds viewing the various exhibits and occasionally dropping in at the side show.

Jones Dedicates Hall

Leaders of both races lauded the achievements of the Negro at the all-day dedicatory exercises which were held in the famous Cotton Bowl, the Hall of Religion and at the Hall of Negro Life.

In a blazing sun several thousand persons sat and listened attentively as Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive

secretary of the National Urban League, adviser of Negro Affairs in the Department of Commerce and chairman of the Federal Advisory Committee, delivered a stirring address telling of the progress the Race had made since the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Choosing for his subject "The Negro in America," Mr. Jones said, "We take this occasion to dedicate a building at the Texas Centennial Exposition—a building devoted to an exhibit of the Negro's progress in education, in health, in aesthetics, in mechanical arts, in agriculture, in business—in fact, in all lines of human endeavor which characterize civilized men and render him master of his environment and add the sum total of his higher pleasures."

The speaker declared further that "the Negro is the test of our American Democracy."

"Can white America accord to all within her borders the opportunity to appropriate the best of our national life as far as their abilities will permit? I think that the trends of time would seem to indicate that the answer will eventually be in the affirmative."

Lauds Pioneers

Cheers rang out from the crowd when John W. Rice, Houston, Tex., grand secretary of the United Order of Odd Fellows, recalled the deeds of such Race pioneers as Joshua Houston, a slave of Sam Houston, W. E. King and W. M. McDonald.

Other notable speakers were Col. F. Thomas, (white), United States Commissioner General of the Centennial; Jesse O. Thomas, general manager of the Hall of Negro Life; Prof. W. R. Banks, of Prairie View who presented the members of the Federal Advisory Committee and Dr. R. T. Hamilton who gave an address on behalf of Dallas citizens.

Special music for the occasion was rendered by a chorus of 300 students of the Booker T. Washington high school under the direction of Prof. A. S. Jackson, Jr.

Dr. Williams Speaks

During the evening ceremonies at the Hall of Religion, Dr. Lacey Kirk Williams, Chicago, pastor of Olivet Baptist church, president of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., and vice president of the Baptist World Alliance, spoke on "The Contribution of Baptist Negroes to the Growth and Development of Texas." Dr. George W. Truett, president of the World's Baptist Alliance was another speaker.

Earlier in the evening the Lone Star State Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in the amphitheatre, Hall of Negro Life.

Cab Calloway Big Hit

Another feature of the evening's

program was a track and field meet in the Cotton Bowl where for the first time in the history of athletics both races vied for honors, but it was left to Cab Calloway, King of the hi de ho and his Cotton Club orchestra to furnish the entertainment that made Centennial visitors trip the light fantastic toe until the wee hours of morning.

The orderliness which characterized the movement of the tremendous crowd on the Centennial grounds during the day provoked favorable comment from high officials who were forced to admit that members of the Race had conducted themselves better than their own group.

The center of attraction during the entire day, however, was at the Hall of Negro Life, a V-shaped building of Spanish architectural design in keeping with the general plan of the exposition.

In this building is shown the development of the Race on Texas soil from the long ago day of Stephen Durante (Estebanico) the first member of the Race to land in Texas, through the periods of slavery, the confusion of the race during the Confederacy, the era of agricultural expansion, and on to the present economic and cultural status of the Race.

Tribute To Leaders

The entrance to the building suggests the approach to an art gallery. On the 10-inch off-set in the lobby and over the doors of the entrance to the exhibit lanes were painted the names of 11 of the most outstanding leaders of the past, including:

Crispus Attucks, who was the first man to shed his blood for American independence on Boston Commons; Colonel Young of military distinction; Fred Douglass, the most prominent Negro politician and leader of his day; Booker T. Washington, the apostle of industrial education; Sojourner Truth, outstanding advocate of woman suffrage of the 19th century; Harriet Tubman, one of the famous conductors of the "underground railroad;" Paul Laurence Dunbar, an eminent poet; Dr. Daniel Williams, who performed the first successful operation on the human heart; Wright Cuney who was a member of the Texas legislature and one of the members of the first labor union organization established in Texas; Richard Allen, the founder of the AME church among colored people in protest against segregation imposed by a white church where he was a member in Philadelphia; and Benjamin Banneker, the man to invent the first clock to strike and tell the hour.

A huge exhibit on education and its development confront the visitor entering the mammoth hall. Miss Earlean Carson, of Houston, Texas, who heads the information booth, was kept busy handing out two pamphlets written by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, and Charles E. Hall, specialist Negro statistician, the Department of Commerce to interested persons.

The art exhibit, which was taken from the Harmon Foundation art

exhibit includes the famous painting of Henry O. Tanner and Aaron Douglas. Models of sculpture are displayed also. A collection of all the published music of Race production is included in this group as well as an exhibit on needlework and handicraft.

In the health departments are charts and graphs showing decrease in Race mortality of common causes; increase in modern health and sanitation facilities; Negro work in the public health field, and the special work among our people by the United States Department of Health.

The agricultural exhibit presents the slave day contribution of the Race on the cotton plantation thru the days of agricultural expansion to the present day contributions in exhibit form. These include special exhibits from Tuskegee Institute.

The business exhibit includes models of early business establishments, contrasted with presentday Race corporations; statistical data showing the increase of Race buying power and Race markets.

At the rear of the building is an open-air amphitheater in which daily programs of music and drama utilizing radio and sound equipment are given.

Dallas Papers Insult Visitors To Exposition

By A. N. FIELDS

To the editors of the Dallas Morning News, Dallas Journal and Dispatch:

Gentlemen of the Press:

The Chicago Defender editorial staff has read with interest your various articles on the progress exhibited and the intelligence shown as demonstrated by your hundredth anniversary and Centennial exhibitions.

It must be admitted that if what you showed in your exposition representing the arts and sciences is reflected in your editorial expression then instead of representing a hundred years of progress your entire state and white civilization of Texas might as well be a hundred years of decadence, prejudice, hate and bigotry.

Does The Commission Know? At this juncture, it might be of interest to ask in your caustic criticism and insults hurled upon your colored citizenry and their visiting friends, meet the approbation of your Texas Centennial Commission whose names we observe as being John C. Garner, vice president of the United States and chairman of your commission, and other cabinet members such as Secretary Daniel C. Roper, Cordell Hull and Henry A. Wallace, all close advisers to the President of the United States.

We are led to ask this question

because in the adjoining column we are reprinting what we assumed to be the spirit which typifies the opinion of the commission.

Having a different conception of intelligent journalistic respectability than that which characterized your editorial writers, we politely inquire why was it necessary to refer to the intelligent colored citizenry of your state as "Mandy," "Rastus," and to the intelligent colored women as "dusky country merrymakers, who had deserted catfish streams and left fiddle-faced mules, idle farm work, etc?"

What is more puzzling to us than anything else in your state-up of the June tenth celebration as to just what character constituted "the fiddle-faced mules." Since your article does not inform us, a reader might be led to believe that this reference was intended to characterize the writer of the article, if not in features at least in intelligence.

Even the promoters of the Texas Centennial will learn from their show that they too have failed to come up to the sounding manifesto of their hundred years of progress. If progress means anything, it means advancement, improvement—in thought, in character, in understanding, in sympathy and in brotherly love. If we are to judge by what is reflected in your newspapers and in the conduct of those who managed and handled your Centennial, instead of advancing in culture and refinement, Texas is receding into barbarism.

Why Support Papers? Intelligent colored citizens

throughout the nation cannot conceive that the intelligent colored citizens will continue to support such unintelligent newspapers as the ones in question. Surely they do not represent the intelligent and self-respecting white people of Texas but if such is the case, then we are not in the least surprised at the slow progress Texas has made in the cause of civilization.

Nicknames are easily applied. We shall not stoop to that low order of your journalistic activity, but should we be of the same mind and inclined to the same low habits it would not be difficult to find corresponding applications which could be applied to white women, and white men of Texas.

Yours very truly,
The Chicago Defender

Negroes Stage Big Juneteenth At Centennial

Dallas Eats Cold Supper and Cotton Patches Emptied as Thousands Inspect Magic City

Hall Is Dedicated

Dusky Beauties Prance; Cab Calloway Does His Stuff for Truckers

Mandy wasn't there when Dallas sat down to cold supper Friday night for with Rastus, and thousands of care-free members of her race she was busy putting in a glorious Juneteenth at the magic Texas Centennial Exposition. Attendance totaled 46,116.

Joining in with the city negroes were other thousands of dusky country merrymakers who had deserted catfish streams and left fiddle-faced mules to munch contentedly in idleness, farm work forgotten, to celebrate Emancipation Day amid the wonders of Dallas' \$25,000,000 world fair.

Rolling eyes and flashing white teeth dominated exhibit halls, the Midway and various places where special negro programs, ranging from the dedication of the \$50,000 Negro Hall to the highly entertaining hi-dhoing as performed by Cab Calloway and his Cotton Club Orchestra which was hotter than the blazing afternoon sun.

Laughter and carefree happiness comes easy to the sons and daughters of Ham and with the many wonders and attractions of the magic city at their disposal they made this Juneteenth a Christmas, July Fourth and Thanksgiving all rolled into one.

Joe's Got Money.

Fairs - 1936

Texas.

NEGRO HISTORY OF GALVESTON IS PORTRAYED AT TEXAS FAIR

Centennial Pageant Depicts Advance Of Race

GALVESTON.—"Texas, Then and Now," a contribution to the Texas Centennial and a historical pageant depicting the progress of the Negro during the various stages of Texas development was presented to the Galveston public by the student body and faculty members of West District public school Monday, April 20, at the city auditorium.

Beginning with the days of the Texas Indians, the pageant graphically portrayed the glamorous story of the Lone Star State from 1836 to the present Centennial year.

Part four of episode ten brought full realization of the deeper significance of the 1936 Centennial and forcefully brought home to many Galvestonians unknown facts concerning the progress of the Galveston Negro. This episode, "The Spirit of Galveston," included scores of civic, religious, patriotic and educational scenes and could be referred to as the parade of bronze notables in Galveston. Local schools, churches, community workers, welfare workers, laborers and professional groups passed in review before an audience of more than 500.

In this episode the march "From the Cotton Patch to the White House" was brought out. Though the scene was not enacted, the deeper meaning could be seen when in the beginning the scene of plantation life took place, showing the life of the Southern Negro in years back of toiling for "de master" and in the concluding scene the picture of Norris Wright Cuney, deceased, collector of customs and nationally known political figure, was presented.

The historical pageant was conducted by Mrs. O. K. Lucas, Mrs. O. O. Bridge and Prof. H. T. Davis, instructors and principal of the West District school.

Sunday, April 26, a chorus of pupils from West District school will

appear at Shiloh A. M. E. church for the Big Mock Association. The development and participation in the chorus will be under the direction of Mrs. O. K. Lucas.

cannot view this panel for long without recognizing the message which it speaks: that the labor of the Negro, in the early day and now, lies at the base of much of the material development which this country has thus far been able to make.

TYLER, TEXAS
COURIER-TIMES

JUN 16 1936

There's No Race Problem In Texas

If anybody ever tells you that we don't understand the race problem in this section, kindly call their attention to a huge Emancipation day program to be staged at the Texas centennial.

On Friday Negroes will swarm Dallas from almost every state to take part in exercises commemorating their freedom. It is expected 100,000 descendants of slaves will take part in that demonstration.

Now, a state imbedded down here in the far south hasn't anything at all to apologize for its attitude toward Negro people when that state can devote a part of its great exposition to an event which signifies a bitter experience when the white people paid with oceans of salty tears.

The race question is in pretty good shape in this land.

15,000 Jam Center For Centennial; Gala Celebration Will Close Today

CENTER, Aug. 15.—(Special.)—years depicting the county's 100 Cherokee County's centennial celebration swung into its second day teams, Indian dances and exhibitions of marksmanship, an exhibition of Cherokee's natural resources and historical events provided today's entertainment. A thing estimated at 15,000 witnessed fine dances staged by Queen of yesterday's pageant as Miss Geraldine Snead, pretty North Carolina at the centennial's Center girl. Princess was Miss Edith Shropshire. Other fair participants were Miss Ruth Russell as "Miss Gaylesville," Miss Sarah Hilarity began anew this morn- Lee Roberts as "Miss Collinsville" ing as a "raging parade" marched up the single paved street, a succession of stunts, gags and sketches on yesterday's process-

Committee Is Appointed At Texas Fair

Interracial Group To Halt Embarrassment Of Visitors

DALLAS, Tex. In order to minimize embarrassment which Negroes might encounter on the Texas Centennial Exposition Grounds, an Interracial Committee has been formed it was announced this week.

The committee is composed of Dr. S. W. Geiger, S. M. U., chairman; W. H. Harris, Federal exhibits director; W. H. Kittrell, Jr., exposition staff; Jesse O. Thomas, manager Negro Hall of Life; Sam Houston, principal Huntsville Negro schools; and Maceo Smith, secretary Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce. Negro members to act in an advisory capacity, have been named by Dr. Geiger as follows: M. W. Dogan, Marshall, president of Wiley College; W. R. Banks, president Prairie View State Normal.

General Manager Jesse O. Thomas worked out the program for the Committee and was largely responsible for bringing it into existence.

Dr. Geiger is one of the most interracially-minded white citizens of Texas.

John Pratt, Center newspaper editor who invented the type-writer; to Mose Hampton, Negro preacher who bought his freedom from slavery my manufacturing cotton gins, laid out the town of Center, built its first church and preached in it to white people; to Chief Pathkiller, last of Alabama's Cherokee "kings," and to John Ross, Indian statesman.



One of the visiting queens at the Cherokee County Centennial is Miss Lydia Sue Howard, right, who is "Miss Gadsden."

THE CENTENNIAL AND THE NEGRO

The Centennial has established several things about the Negro. First, through it, the fact that Negroes can and will stay away from pay entertainments when they are publicly and openly humiliated, has been clearly established.

The Centennial proved that a mammoth undertaking, predicated upon attendance by the whole citizenry, will flounder if Negroes turn thumbs down on it.

Also October 19, the special Negro Day, when Negroes were urged to visit, showed the tremendous buying power of Negroes.

Finally, the Centennial showed to at least a few of the promoters that they can't fool all the Negroes, when the Negro press unitedly stands to the guns to tell the naked truth about unwarranted discrimination.

The Centennial was hatched in hatred and vindictiveness. The usual selfishness of Southern legislators was aided by resentment because Dallas Negroes ran A. S. Wells for a legislative office to which usually whites only aspire. But if it is true that resentful whites of Texas barred Negroes out of fair participation in the Centennial and state funds; it is equally true that Negroes kept their money in their pockets and refused to enrich the merchants of Dallas.

If it is true that the first nearsighted director generals and the Negroes in charge of the government building entered a tacit conspiracy to humiliate Negroes and defend and minimize the act; it is also true that Negroes singed these birds' wings and made them backwater.

Hundreds of thousand dollars have been lost to Dallas and Texas by the spite and stupidity of the officials during the first half of the period. Not only Texas Negroes stayed away when they learned of the stubborn attempt to bar Negroes from busses and other places they are accustomed to use, even in Jim Crow states; but thousands from outside of the state changed their plans and stayed home.

The attitude of the officials has changed and an aggressive drive is being made now by Director Harry Olmstead to get Negroes to the Centennial. But it is too late to arouse much enthusiasm among Negroes for the Centennial.

In the longer view of the matter the Centennial has not hurt Negroes much. But it has been a colossal moment to the vindictiveness and stupidity of the old school Southern leader. We congratulate Texas Negroes, and commend the old guard, who started to freeze out Negroes, to the old Persian philosopher who said, "He who knows not and knows not that he knows, is a fool."

Fairs - 1936

Allot \$100,000 For Texas Expo Negro Exhibit

Formal Announcement
Made By U. C.

Official
WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP) —United States Commissioner of Education John W. Studebaker was designated recently by the United States Texas Centennial Commission to supervise preparation of a national exhibit of progress and development of the Negro race to be presented at the Texas Centennial Exposition opening at Dallas next June.

Announcement of Dr. Studebaker's selection was made by Vice-president John N. Garner as chairman of the U. S. Centennial Commission.

The education commissioner will be assisted, Vice-president Garner stated, by an advisory committee of outstanding Negroes representative of the country at large. This committee is to be selected by Dr. Studebaker after consultation with Negro leaders.

The exhibit, to be financed by a \$100,000 allotment from the federal appropriation for the Centennial celebrations, will be planned and prepared by Negroes themselves. Half of this allotment will be spent for construction of a modern building to house the exhibit, and the other \$50,000 will be used for preparation of the display.

"The commission feels that the Negro should have this opportunity to tell the story of the development of his own race," Vice-president Garner explained. "To this and the government is asking outstanding Negroes who have played a leading part in the progress of their race to aid and cooperate in preparing and presenting a worthy exhibit."

Some interest has been manifested in the personality who will head up the work. It is reported that a prominent historian connected with Howard University, was offered the post as head of the exposition

at a salary of \$5,000 per year, but he declined it. Prediction here are that some outstanding Texan will be chosen and the name of W. R. Banks, president of Prairie View College has been mentioned.

THE CENTENNIAL

One clear illustration of the way that Negroes of Texas are left on the outer fringe, if not on the outside, of things of vital concern to the state is the way in which the Texas Centennial is being conducted. So far as Texas is concerned the centennial is being planned and conducted thus far as if Negroes were not present in the state, to say nothing of constituting about one-sixth of the total population.

Thus far the State of Texas has not appropriated one dime to further Negro participation in the one hundredth anniversary of the state.

To date the City of Dallas has appropriated nothing in this direction.

Nor has the exposition allocated one penny for this vital purpose.

vital so far as Negroes are concerned, but apparently of no concern to the centennial powers-that-be within the state.

Only the Federal government has been good enough in connection with the Texas Centennial at least to recognize the fact that Negroes after all do live in Texas. But even the Federal government's recognition of Texas Negroes in connection with the centennial has been so hamstrung by politicians of the state, that Negroes are having practically nothing to do with it.

The plans for the Federal Negro building were drawn by a white architect. The money is being handled altogether by white people. The contractor will be a white man. Not a single Negro is employed on the pay roll of the centennial, even the Federal project, in any capacity worth mentioning whatsoever. Indeed, it looks now very much as though white labor will build the Negro building.

But, as a group, we really do not care very much. So why should other people take it upon themselves to be bothered?

Texas.

Name Committee For Big Texas Exposition

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27—(ANP) —A National Negro Advisory committee to collaborate with the U. S. Texas Centennial Commission in the preparation of the Federal Negro exhibit for the Texas Centennial Exposition at Dallas, next June, was selected here by the commission.

The committee was chosen after consultation with the United States Commissioner of Education. The seven committee members are:

Eugene Kinckle Jones, Adviser on Negro Affairs, Department of Commerce, Washington, chairman; Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, attorney, Philadelphia; Robert L. Vann, editor, The Pittsburgh Courier, formerly Assistant to the Attorney General; W. R. Banks, principal, Prairie View State College, Prairie View, Tex., chairman, State Texas Negro committee; Dr. M. O. Bousfield, Julian Rosenwald Fund, Chicago; Garnet C. Wilkinson, assistant superintendent of the Public Schools, Washington, and Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

NEGRO BUILDERS LOST IN SHUFFLE ON CENTENNIAL

Failed To Submit Bids
Because Of Lack
Of Information

DALLAS.—That information which would place Negro contractors on an equal footing with white contractors in bidding upon the Federal exhibits building for Negroes at the Texas Centennial was not adequately given them, was disclosed here this week in a letter to A. Maceo Smith from Geo. L. Dahl, Centennial architect and technical director.

The letter was written in response to objections presented by Mr. Smith that Negro contractors had not received the necessary information and had not had time to submit their bids. Because of Mr. Smith's objections the time for opening bids was extended, but not long enough for Negro contractors to be notified through the Negro press, which is the usual channel through which they would look for such information.

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Smith that Negro contractors had not received the necessary information and had not had time to submit their bids. Because of Mr. Smith's objections the time for opening bids was extended, but not long enough for Negro contractors to be notified through the Negro press, which is the usual channel through which they would look for such information.

Burden On Smith

Mr. Dahl put the burden of notifying all Negro contractors "noted this year have given rise to the only in the State but in the South-western territory" upon Mr. Smith and stated that "this will give all Negroes sufficient notice." Mr. Smith received the letter last Saturday, February 22, and the time for opening bids was extended only until Friday, February 28.

The full text of the letter follows: February 22, 1936

Mr. Maceo Smith
3205 1/2 Commerce Street
Dallas, Texas

"Re: Federal-Negro Exhibit Bldg." "Plans and specifications for the United States Negro Exhibit Building have been distributed to contractors, beginning February 17, advertisements were in the newspapers, and bids were to be called on February 23, at 4:00 p.m. At the present time we have a good number of contractors and one Negro contractor who are bidding on the job."

"As a result of your telephone conversation, stating that Negro contractors had not been aware of the fact that this building was out for bids, we have decided to extend the time of receiving these bids until 11:00 a.m., February 28. This will give all Negroes sufficient notice, and all contractors sufficient notice to get a set of plans and to present their figures on the date of acceptance. We understand that his is satisfactory and that you will see that the message gets to all the Negro contractors, not only in the State but in the Southwestern territory."

"Certified check for \$25.00 will be required as a deposit on all plans which will be returned when the contractor presents his bid and returns the plans."

Sincerely yours,
Signed: Geo. L. Dahl

Centennial Architect and
Technical Director.

TEXANS ASK PART DUE IN CENTENNIAL

DALLAS, March —(ANP) —

Developments since the announcement that the Texas Centennial Celebration will be staged this year have given rise to the opinion that the Texans of color have been given the proverbial double cross and are merely on the fringe, as it were, of the Texas Centennial set-up.

When the program was first devised, through the efforts of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce a clause was written into the original bill providing for \$500,000 for Negro participation. This bill, however, was killed.

Realizing that the Federal appropriation of \$100,000 was insufficient to carry out the program agreed upon by Negro leaders of the State, another attempt was made to get the Central Committee to augment the sum appropriated and as result of these efforts the Committee agreed to raise dollar for dollar to match what the Negroes could raise through a bond issue.

Texans Rally To Cause

Under the leadership of a committee with W. R. Banks, as president, A. E. Holland and George Boyd as vice presidents and A. Maceo Smith as secretary, the bond issue was launched and to date a little more than \$5,000 in bonds has been raised but as yet this sum has not been augmented by the Central Centennial Committee as per agreement.

Employment at the celebration as far as current rumors are concerned the Negroes will serve chiefly as attendants with John R. Williams, a Baltimorean supplying entertainment features, reports having "Bo-jangles" Robinson, Ethel Waters Duke Ellington and his orchestra and C. Calloway and his orchestra.

Officers of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce that is leading the fight for funds for Negro participation are Dr. L. G. Pinkston, president, Rev. Maynard Jackson, first vice president, Mrs. Hampton Williams, second vice president, Dr. W. K. Flowers, third vice president, Prof. T. W. Pratt, fourth vice president, Rev. L. L. Haynes, fifth vice president, A. Maceo Smith, secretary and Mrs. H. D. Winn, treasurer.

Even in forming the national committee which will have charge of exhibits for native Texans noted for their clannishness are conspicuous by their scarcity. The committee which will have charge of spending the \$50,000 allotted for exhibits consists of Eugene Kinckle Jones, U. S. Dept. of Commerce, chairman, Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, Philadelphia, Robert L. Vann, Pittsburgh, W. R. Banks, president, Prairie View State College, Texas, chairman of the Texas State Committee and a native of Georgia, Dr. M. O. Bousfield, Chicago, Dr. Garnet C. Wilkinson, Washington, D. C., and Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, Tuskegee Institute.

COMMITTEE IS CHOSEN TO AID IN CENTENNIAL

Seven Negro Leaders Selected To Help Make Plans

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—A National Negro Advisory committee to collaborate with the Texas Centennial commission in the preparation of the Federal Negro exhibit for the Texas Centennial Exposition at Dallas, next June, was selected here by the Commission.

The seven members are: Eugene Kinckle Jones, Adviser on Negro Affairs, Department of Commerce, Washington, chairman; Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, attorney, Philadelphia; Robert L. Vann, editor, Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, formerly Assistant to the Attorney General; W. R. Banks, principal, Prairie View State College, Prairie View, Texas, chairman, Texas Negro Committee; Dr. M. O. Bousfield, Julian Rosenwald Fund, Chicago; Garnet C. Wilkinson, Assistant Superintendent of Public Schools, Washington; Dr. Frederick D. Pat-

erson, President, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

One hundred thousand dollars has been set aside to finance Negro participation in the Exposition. Half of this amount will be used for the construction of a Negro building, and the other \$50,000 will be devoted to assembling exhibits, and for administrative expenses.

The exhibit will show the progress of the Negro race in America, educationally and industrially, and the Negro contributions to the development of this country.

Gigantic Songfest Booked At Houston By Race Choruses

HOUSTON, Texas, March 20.—The initial observance of the Texas Centennial on the part of Race members will be held here at the City Auditorium Sunday, March 29, 3:30 p.m., when the Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce will present a mammoth Centennial songfest featuring three of the leading choral organization of the state: Prairie View State college, Dr. A. Fuller, Jr., director; Nathanial Dett Choral club of Galveston, W. Coleman, director, and Colinde-Taylor Choral club of Houston, Mrs. P. O. Smith, director.

This novel program will be in the nature of a triple choral club contest with each group rendering spiritual jubilee, semi-classic, classical and special number. The massed chorus will interpret several of the favorite Texas songs, including "The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You."

Governor Allred Invited

James V. Allred, governor of Texas, has been invited to deliver a short message on this occasion, as well as Dr. W. R. Banks, principal of Prairie View State college and chairman of Texas Centennial Negro Commission. Charles A. Shaw, executive secretary of the chamber, will give a brief outline of the organization's program and C. F. Richardson, well-known Texas editor, will act as master of ceremonies.

The sponsors expect large delegation to be present from Prairie View State college, Galveston, Beaumont, Richmond, Wharton and other South Texas points.

Race Man Speaks To Fellow Texans At Centennial Meet

HUNTSVILLE, Tex., March 13—

Thousands of reverent Texans from all parts of the state thronged into Huntsville, March 2, to pay homage to Sam Houston, one of Texas' foremost patriots. The occasion was the 143rd birthday anniversary of the Texas hero, which was marked with one of the outstanding Centennial celebrations of the day.

Among the featured participants of the day's activities was the appearance of Sam Houston, Race member and namesake of the famous Texas statesman, who addressed the more than 10,000 devotees who came to pay their respects at the grave of General Sam Houston.

The middle-aged namesake of the "Saviour of Texas" has served his state for many years as principal of the Huntsville Race schools. He is a prominent educator among members of his race and has established an enviable record during the period in which he has directed the affairs of his school.

Sam Houston is the son of Joshua Houston, favorite bodyguard of General Houston during the trying times of the Texas Revolution and by virtue of his relationship to a personal friend of the Texas hero, Sam Houston was given a prominent place on the March 2 program. The Huntsville school master spoke briefly but his words were proof enough that he had inherited the admirable qualifications of his father. A great ovation was extended the speaker as he was introduced by W. P. Hobby, master of ceremonies and former governor of Texas.

Other speakers in the Centennial ceremony included Governor James V. Allred of Texas, Governor Hill McAlister of Tennessee, and Governor Phil LaFollette of Wisconsin.

WORK IS BEGUN ON CENTENNIAL EXHIBIT HALL

Maceo Smith Said To Be Slated For Director

DALLAS.—Work on the construction of the Negro Hall of Culture was begun this week at the Centennial ground as plans in Washington

and in Dallas were being pushed for the participation of the race in the Centennial Exposition.

Reports circulated late last week, that a bid of 28,000 for the construction of the Negro Hall of Culture were not substantiated by Centennial officials when questioned by The Informer.

The Cross construction company of Tulsa, Okla., won the contract to erect the building by July 15 with a bid of \$45,000. The federal government set \$50,000 as the limit of money to be used for the construction of the building. The remaining \$55,000 of the \$100,000 appropriation for depicting the progress of the American Negro will be used in getting exhibits for the building.

A. Maceo Smith, secretary of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce left Friday for Washington, D. C. to confer with Federal officials and members of the recently appointed advisory committee on Negro Participation in the Centennial.

Announcement of the appointment of Mr. Smith as director of the Negro building is expected late this week.

Mr. Smith will return to the city Saturday.

ATLANTA NEGRO TO HEAD EXHIBIT

Thomas Will Direct Race's Participation in Texas Centennial Celebration.

Jesse O. Thomas, field secretary of the National Urban League, has been appointed general manager of the negro participation in the Texas Centennial Celebration, to be held from June 6 to November 29, by officials of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. It was announced yesterday.

This celebration marks the 100th anniversary of Texas' freedom and, according to Thomas, is the first time the federal government has made appropriations for negro participation in a state celebration under negro leadership.

Thomas has been granted a leave of absence by the National Urban League and will leave Atlanta shortly to establish a headquarters at the capital. The federal government, he said, has appropriated \$50,000 for the construction of a building to house historical and cultural exhibits of the negro race and another \$50,000 for administrative and miscellaneous purposes.

Thomas, widely known Atlanta negro, organized the Atlanta, Richmond and Tampa branches of the National Urban League. He organized the Junior Welfare League, the Atlanta School of Social Work, the Alumni Association of Tuskegee Institute and

the Twenty-Seven Club. In 1928 he was a delegate to the first international conference on social work at Paris, France.

The Twenty-Seven Club, composed of 27 Atlanta negro citizens, holds monthly meetings to discuss problems and interesting phases of negro life. Thomas also organized the Pioneer Savings Association, perhaps the only inter-racial financial enterprise in the south. He is vice grand basileus of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

Initial Meeting of Texas Centennial Opened by Roper

Advisory Committee Maps Plans for Exhibition In Dallas

The first meeting of the Advisory Committee, appointed by the U. S. Texas Centennial Commission to advise on the participation of Negroes in the Texas Centennial celebration to be held at Dallas June to November 1936, was held in the conference room of the Department of Commerce, Monday.

Eugene Kinckle Jones, adviser on Negro affairs, Department of Commerce, presided.

Other members of the committee were: Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, attorney, assistant Mayor of the City of Philadelphia; W. R. Banks, president, Prairie View State College of Texas; Dr. M. O. Bousfield, associate director of medical services, Julius Rosenwald Fund, Chicago; Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president, Tuskegee Institute; Robert L. Vann, Pittsburgh, and Garnet C. Wilkinson, assistant superintendent of schools, Washington.

Roper Spoke

The meeting opened with a welcome address by Secretary Roper, a member of the U. S. Centennial Commission, who expressed interest in the general celebration as representing the century of progress of the people of Texas as well as his delight in the opportunity that comes to Negroes to participate under the able leadership of the personnel of the advisory committee.

Leaders Present

Other persons present on invitation and who contributed to the discussion were: William H. Harris, assistant director of exhibits; Dr. William J. Thompson, recorder of deeds, District of Columbia; Dr. Robert C. Weaver, adviser on the economic status of Negroes, Department of Interior; Charles

E. Hall, specialist in Negro statistics, Bureau of the Census; Jesse P. Thomas, Southern field director, National Urban League, and A. Maceo Smith, secretary, Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Fairs - 1936

West Virginia

W. Virginia Senator Seeking \$2,000,000 For All Negro Fair

James M. Neely
2-27-36
Bill Introduced In U. S.
Senate Asking For Huge
Appropriation

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—A bill has been introduced into the Senate by Senator M. M. Neely of West Virginia seeking an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for an exposition to be held in Atlanta, Ga., this year, under the sponsorship of the National Association of Colored Women.

Mrs. A. L. Spaulding, president of the West Virginia State Federation of Colored Women is the active proponent of the plan which is an outgrowth of several year's work on her part to stage a national exposition. Failing to develop a program under the auspices of the N. A. C. W. alone she is fostering the effort to have the federal government give its aid.

No evidence is available here as to how Congress will receive the measure.